Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to make enquiries regarding that ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—It is the function of the Municipality. We have no control over the plot. If you want, we shall write to the Municipality about this. That is all we can do in the matter.

Public latrines in the Ernakulam bazaar.

451. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to say how many public latrines have been provided for the use of the bazaar inhabitants and the floating population of Ernakulam bazaar ;

(2) has the notice of the Government been drawn to the fact that the foreshore of Ernakulam especially behind the bazaar is now in a very highly insanitary condition ;

(3) are the Government unaware of the fact that the Ernakulam foreshore is the only place of resort for the inhabitants of the town for recreation and that the present condition of that locality is dangerous to the health of persons ;

(4) has the Ernakulam Municipality taken any measure to remedy the above mentioned evil ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—(1) Two.

(2) It is not in an insanitary condition.

(3) and (4) These questions do not arise in view of the answer furnished above.

Text-Book Committee and Board of Studies.

452. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to give the following information:—

(a) how many members are there in the Text-Book Committee ;

(b) how many of them are Members of the Cochin Legislative Council ;

(c) have the Government any objection to appoint more Members of the Legislative Council in the Text-Book Committee and in the Board of Studies ;

(d) how many Members of the Legislative Council are there in the Board of Studies ;

(e) did the Government directly approve any books last year, which failed to get the approval of the Text-Book Committee ;

(f) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, what was the special reason which made the Government do so ;

(g) what was the date on which the last Text-Book Committee meeting was held and what was the date first fixed for the said meeting and why was that changed ;

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(h) was the Maharaja's College Day Celebrations held on the same day on which the meeting referred to above was held;

(i) was the convener aware that the College Day Celebrations would be taking place on the same day which he had fixed for the holding of the last Text-Book Committee meeting; how many days after he became aware of it; did the Text-Book Committee meeting actually take place;

(j) when was the date of the College Day Celebrations first announced;

(k) where is the Text-Book Committee meeting held;

(l) was there any requisition from any of the members to the President of the Text-Book Committee to change the date of the meeting; if so, how many members applied in writing and how many orally;

(m) did outsiders apply for the change of the date; and if so, who all;

(n) how were the applications treated by the President of the Committee; did he change the date of the meeting, and if not, why not;

(o) how many members attended the last meeting of the Text-Book Committee; is there a quorum fixed for the holding of the Text-Book Committee;

(p) how many Malayalis are there in the Science Section of the Text-Book Committee; how many Tamil Brahmins; who examines the books written in Malayalam on Scientific subjects;

(q) was there an instance in the last meeting of the Science Section when the Malayali members considered a certain Malayalam Book worthy of approval and the Tamil Brahmin President and two Tamil members objected to it; was that book approved;

(r) have the Government any objection to appoint a non-official as the President of the Text-Book Committee and of the Board of Studies; or if that is not possible, have the Government any objection to make at least the Director of Public Instruction the President;

(s) for how many hours does a meeting of the Text-Book Committee usually sit;

(t) what is the number of books considered during one meeting generally;

(u) are discussions permitted, when there is any difference of opinion between the members; are the votes of the members taken, and if so, is there any record to show the votes for and against?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) Fifteen including the President.

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(b) There were two, of whom one has ceased to be a Member of the Legislative Council.

(c) A Committee has been appointed to enquire into the past working of the Text-Book Committee and the Board of Studies and to suggest means for their better functioning in pursuance of a resolution of the Council. It does not seem desirable to effect any changes before the receipt of their report.

(d) As in the Text-Book Committee. Vide answer to (b) above.

(e) & (f). No, but Government ordered the placing before the Board of Studies of a set of readers which in the opinion of Government did not receive fair treatment at the hands of the Text-Book Committee.

(g) The meeting was held on 8th Dhanu 1104/22nd December 1928, and the date first fixed was 2nd Vrischigam 1104/17th November 1928.

The change was necessitated by the fact that the notification fixing the original date appeared in the Gazette later than was expected.

(h) Yes.

(i) He came to know of it long after the notification had been sent for publication in the Gazette.

(j) On 8th December 1928 in the Gazette.

(k) In the office of the Senior Inspector of Schools.

(l) There was a request from Mr. M. K. Raman to change the date. No others applied orally or in writing.

(m) None.

(n) The requisition from Mr. M. K. Raman having been received only on 21st December 1928, i. e., the day previous to that fixed for the meeting, nothing could be done.

(o) Twelve excluding the President. No, but meetings are held only when a majority of the members are present.

(p) The members of the Science Committee are :—

1 Messrs. T. P. Anantanarayana Ayyar, President.
2 ,, M. K. Raman.
3 ,, C. K. John.
4 ,, L. S. Subbaraya Ayyar.
5 ,, K. A. Doraswami Ayyar.
6 ,, T. P. Verghese.

There are thus 3 Malayali members including Messrs. C. K. John and T. P. Verghese, and 3 Tamil Brahmins.

All the members examine the books since they all know Malayalam.

(q) The reference appears to be to the book "ഭൂതരാജ്യം", Parts I and II, by P. Rama Kurup. Messrs. M. K. Raman and C. K. John were for approving the book as a text, but the other members including Mr. T. P. Verghese were of opinion that it

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was better to teach the subject in the Lower Secondary and Primary classes through demonstrations instead of through a text-book. The President did not object though he took part in the discussion. The book was approved as being fit for the Teachers' Library as agreed to by the majority.

(r) Vide answer to sub-division (c) above.

(s) For five hours, or more if found necessary.

(t) About a hundred.

(u) The members are allowed full freedom in the matter of expressing their views. When there is difference of opinion in respect of any subject, the matter is decided by the rule of majority. In such cases votes are taken, but no record is kept to show who have voted for or against. The opinion of the majority is noted in the record books, as indicating the voice of the Committee. There is a register kept in the office in which the members note their opinion against each book in the remarks column.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—With reference to the answer given to sub-divisions (e) and (f), may I know what is the unfair treatment alluded to ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There was undue delay in pronouncing the opinion on those Readers. They put it off. The Government thought that they were not justified in so putting it off for consideration.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Am I to understand that no opinion was pronounced on any of the text-books at all ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—No.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Is it not necessary that the text-books should be placed before the Text-Book Committee and the Board of Studies and that they should be approved by them ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Government have the power to prescribe text-books. The approval of the Committee is not necessary.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Even without the approval of the Board of Studies, Government has power to prescribe ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes.

Collection of Canal fees in the Karuvannur River.

453. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they collect any canal fees in the Karuvannur river above Karanchira; if so, when was this begun; (b) whether Government have spent any amount to deepen this place so that boats, etc., can be taken through this place during the whole year ?

Mr. V. K Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) and (b). No.

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